

[English]

Reduction in prices of Petrol and Petroleum Products

*110. SHRI KARIA MUNDA:
SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS to be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the prices of diesel, petrol and petroleum products raised during the Gulf war; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) does not arise.

[Translation]

Central Funds for control of Water Logging in Bihar

*111. SHRI SHHEDI PASWAN:
SHRI RAM TAHAL
CHOUHARY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES to be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned by the Union Government for control of water-logging in Bihar, through the special Task Force, during the last two years;

(b) whether the full amount has been released;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the amount actually released for that purpose; and

(d) whether the Government propose to increase the amount of Central grants and loans in view of the severity of water-logging in the State?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). No separate funds the schemes to control water logging in Bihar as identified by the Task Force, have been sanctioned by the Union Government. The work is to be carried out by the State from their Plan funds. Assistance is given to the States as block grants and is not tied to any specific sector including flood sector.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

Enhancement in Visa Fee

*112. SHRI V.S. VUAYARAGHVAN:
SHRI BHUVNESHVAR
PRASAD MEHTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to enhance the visa fee recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this will affect our tourism industry adversely;

(d) whether the Government propose to reconsider its decision particularly in regard to tourists;

(e) whether any representation has been received by the Indian Embassies in Singapore and Malaysia on this issue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Visa fee which prior to November 91 was different for different nationalities and differed for single/double/triple/multiple entries has been now rationalised. It now